

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, Feb. 23

- Men's Basketball will play against Coastal Carolina 7 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 24

- Women's basketball will play at Texas State at 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 25

- Bowling will compete at the Big Red Invite.
- Women's tennis will play at Alcorn State at 2 p.m.
- Men's basketball will play against Appalachian State at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 26

- Bowling will compete at Day Two of the Big Red Invite.
- Tennis will compete against Grambling at 1 p.m.
- Women's basketball will play at UT Arlington at 2 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 27

- Bowling will compete in Day Three of the Big Red Invite.
- Tennis will compete at Louisiana Tech at 11 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 28

- Men's golf will play at Lake Las Vegas Intercollegiate Invite.

Last Home game for the Red Wolves



PHOTO COURTESY OF ARKANSAS STATE ATHLETICS

Mailyn Wilkerson, freshman guard scored 15 points in the game against Little Rock.

LOUIS WALKER

SPECIAL TO THE HERALD

Looking for a measure of revenge, Arkansas State University's women's basketball team took on the Little Rock Trojans at First National Bank Arena on Saturday afternoon.

This final home game saw a hard-fought performance by the Red Wolves; yet it ultimately ended in a heart-breaking defeat with a final score of 73-69 to the Trojans.

Collecting a career high 15 points, Mailyn Wilkerson, a freshman guard from Houston, led the scoring for the Red Wolves.

With only seven players available, it was always going to be tough for A-State to get a good result. Before the game, Interim Head Coach Destinee Rogers spoke about the unique situation the Red Wolves had found themselves in. "I have never seen anything like this before, never experienced, never been on a team with this many injuries, never coached a team with this many injuries."

A dislocated shoulder during the previous loss to the Trojans in Little Rock on Feb. 12 meant Trinitee Jackson was the latest injury for the team.

Rogers said that it can be,

"heart-breaking when you see your teammates, your friends go down with an injury." She also noted that it changed the game as the Red Wolves guards were swarmed and struggled to get any more points on the board.

The loss of Jackson meant Rogers would look to make use of the team's perimeter shooters with fast, aggressive basketball to replace the loss of their presence in the paint. This change in style also meant the physicality of the Trojans had to be matched. When speaking about the freshman in the A-State roster, Rogers said the game in Little Rock was a learning experience. "I think they learned that college basketball is the real deal going up against that type of defense, that type of toughness. You could see that they struggled and maybe (had) just a little bit of timidness not going up against that before."

The first quarter was a real back and forth contest as both teams looked to gain the upper hand. A-State held a 20-17 lead at the end of the quarter, managing to fight back after the Trojans took the first four points in the game.

Six straight points by Wilkerson saw a second

quarter lead of 11. The Trojans reduced the score line to seven, but with 51 seconds remaining, freshman Jade Upshaw rattled home a three pointer to end the half with a double-digit lead for the Red Wolves.

For A-State, rarely does a third quarter express the highest of highs and lowest of lows but against the Trojans they saw the largest lead of the game at 13 points. This led to an exciting climax as it was reduced to a single score, 54-52.

Back-to-back three pointers by Upshaw and another by Wilkerson gave fans hope that they could cling on to a deserved win but ultimately, the Trojan's were just too much on this occasion. The collapse of the third quarter was made all the worse as a 12-4 Trojan run ended the fourth quarter and saw Little Rock escape from First National Bank Arena with the victory.

For Morgan Wallace, a senior from Little Rock, this defeat marked her last home game. Wallace has been a part of the A-State program for five years and has been coached by Rogers for three years.

When asked about Wallace, Rogers said, "I don't think I have ever coached a player that

is as tough as Morgan Wallace. She's gonna give you 110% every play, every day and she's just that leader that every team needs. I'm not sure that we can replace what she has brought to this team over the course of these five years."

Wallace gave her all for the Red Wolves, ending her last home game with 12 points and a team leading eight rebounds as she battled through 38 minutes on the court.

The never say die attitude has been a part of Rogers' approach, even in the face of the obstacles the Red Wolves have encountered this season. "I come into every practice with the same energy, the same focus and we prepare hard each and every week. We believe every game we have a shot to win, no matter what's going on," said Rogers.

Even though it was a negative result, the Red Wolves can hold their heads high for giving it their all until the final second. To end their season, A-State head on their travels to Texas State and UT Arlington before the real test commences in the Sun Belt Conference Tournament.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ARKANSAS STATE ATHLETICS

2022 Baseball Single-Game Tickets on Sale

Press Release from Arkansas State Athletics

Single-game tickets for 2022 Arkansas State baseball home contests at Tomlinson Stadium are now on sale, as A-State is set to open its 2022 home slate on Friday, hosting in-state foe Arkansas-Pine Bluff at 4 p.m.

Fans can purchase by phone (870-972-2401) or take advantage of the online option at AStateRedWolves.com/tickets.

Friday marks the beginning of a 10-game home stand for the Red Wolves.

The 2022 home schedule features contests against SEC foe Ole Miss, as well as Memphis and league foes Coastal Carolina, Louisiana, Texas State, Troy and Georgia State. Three-game series versus Arkansas-Pine Bluff and Illinois State also dot the calendar, in addition to midweek outings against Mississippi Valley State, SEMO, Southern Illinois and Central Arkansas.

A-State returns five starting position players, as well as all three pitchers who started on the weekends in Sun Belt Conference action from last season. First Team All-Sun Belt third baseman Ben Klutts is among those returnees and was also projected by Collegiate Baseball Newspaper as the conference Player of the Year.

SOCIAL MEDIA

For the latest on A-State Baseball, follow the team by liking Arkansas State Baseball on Facebook, as well as following the team on Twitter (@AStateBaseball) and Instagram (astatebaseball).